

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A racket comprising:

3 a racket frame comprising a racket handle portion orientated along a longitudinal axis of the racket, a racket head portion allowing for the attachment thereto of generally longitudinally directed strings and generally laterally directed strings to form a string bed of the racket, and a racket throat area joining the handle portion with the head portion; and

a self-powered piezoelectric damping system comprising ~~at least one~~ two transducer elements laminated to the racket frame and at least one circuit located within the racket handle portion and electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ transducer elements by way of a Y-shaped flex circuit, the circuit including at least one storage element configured to store power extracted from the two transducer elements.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The racket of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ at least one of the transducer elements is located at the racket throat area.

4. (Currently amended) The racket of claim 3, wherein the racket ~~comprises two~~ transducer elements, both transducer elements are located at the racket throat area and electrically connected to the circuit.

5. (Currently amended) The racket of claim 1, wherein the racket further includes a protective coating covering ~~the~~ at least one of the transducer elements.

6. (Currently amended) A racket comprising:

23
a racket frame comprising a racket handle portion orientated along a longitudinal axis of the racket, a racket head portion allowing for the attachment thereto of generally longitudinally directed strings and generally laterally directed strings to form a string bed of the racket, and a racket throat area joining the handle portion with the head portion;
and

a self-powered piezoelectric damping system comprising ~~at least one~~ two transducer elements laminated to the racket frame and at least one circuit located within the racket handle portion and electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ transducer elements by way of a Y-shaped flex circuit; and

at least one storage element configured to store power extracted from the two transducer elements.

wherein the racket handle portion includes a slot in the racket handle portion and the circuit is affixed within the slot.

7. (Original) The racket of claim 6, wherein the slot extends completely through the racket handle portion.

8. (Original) The racket of claim 6, wherein the slot is at least partially filled with a foam to fix the circuit within the slot.

9. (Original) The racket of claim 6, wherein the circuit includes a circuit board and the circuit board is affixed to the racket handle portion.

10. (Original) The racket of claim 1, wherein the circuit is affixed to an end cap of the racket and the end cap is affixed to the racket handle portion.

11. (Currently amended) A racket comprising:

a racket frame comprising a racket handle portion orientated along a longitudinal axis of the racket, a racket head portion allowing for the attachment thereto of generally longitudinally directed strings and generally laterally directed strings to form a string bed of the racket, and a racket throat area joining the handle portion with the head portion;
and

a self-powered piezoelectric damping system comprising ~~at least one~~ two transducer elements and at least one circuit located within the racket handle portion and electrically connected to the ~~at least one~~ transducer elements by way of a Y-shaped flex circuit; and

a storage element configured to store power extracted from the two transducer elements.

12. (Currently amended) The racket according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at least~~
~~one~~ two transducer elements includes piezoelectric fibers.

13. (Currently amended) The racket according to claim 6, wherein the ~~at least~~
~~one~~ two transducer elements includes piezoelectric fibers.

14. (Currently amended) The racket according to claim 11, wherein the ~~at least~~
~~one~~ two transducer elements includes piezoelectric fibers.
